GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1273
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
USE OF JUTE BAGS FOR PACKAGING UREA BY FERTILIZER COMPANIES
SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government are aware that the urea producing companies floating the mandatory norms on using the Jute bags for packaging their products;

(b) if so, the details of the related loss of business incurred by the jute industry during the last three years on this account, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to rectify the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI S. S. DHINDSA)

(a) & (b) Urea has been exempted from the provisions of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in packing commodities) Act 1987 w.e.f. 1.9.2001.

For the period prior to 1.9.2001, the utilization of jute bags by Urea Sectorwith extent of default and % age of defaulted quantity of total production of jute goods during the last three years i.e. 1998-99 to 2000-01 are given below :-

Year	Requirement of jute bags for full compliance of Order	Actual offtake of jute bags	default of jute bags over total production		Extent of Total Production of jute goods	%age of defaulted quantity
	000' Ton	000' Ton	000'Ton	%age	000'Ton	%age
1998-99	88.80	47.00	41.80	47.0	1596.2	2.62
1999-2000	34.20	24.80	9.40	27.5	1590.20	0.59
2000-01	24.30	15.80	8.50	35.0	1624.90	0.52

As may be seen from the above, although the default in respect of requirement of jute bags for full compliance of order appears to be high but the percentage of default over total production of jute is very negligible.

The internal consumption of jute goods during these years has been 14.04 lakh tonnes, 14.27 lakh tonnes and 14.34 lakh tonnes respectively. Hence the jute industry has not suffered any losses as the consumption of jute goods over the production of jute goods does not show any significant downward trend.

(c) As long as the JPM Act, 1987 was applicable to the fertilizer industry, theusage of jute bags was reviewed from time to time. However, from 1.9.2001, urea has been exempted from the purview of the JPM Act, 1987.